
Game Control Lionel Shriver

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**The New Republic Profile
Books**

One ordinary afternoon in a nameless town, a nameless young woman is at work in a benefits office. Ten minutes later, she is in an underground parking lot, slammed up against a wall, having sex with a stranger. What made her do this? How can she forget him? These are questions the

young woman asks herself as she charts her deepening erotic obsession with painful, sometimes hilarious precision. With the crazy logic and hallucinatory clarity of an exhilarating, terrifying dream, told in chapters as short and surprising as snapshots, *True Things About Me* hurtles through the terrain of sexual obsession and asks what it is to know oneself and to test the limits of one's desires.

So Much for That

Harlequin

Now reissued – William March's 1954 classic thriller that's as chilling, intelligent and timely as ever before.

This paperback reissue includes a new P.S. section with author interviews, insights, features, suggested reading and more. What happens to ordinary families into whose midst a child

serial killer is born? This is the question at the center of William March's classic thriller. After its initial publication in 1954, the book went on to become a million – copy bestseller, a wildly successful Broadway show, and a Warner Brothers film. The spine – tingling tale of little Rhoda Penmark had a tremendous impact on the thriller genre and generated a whole perdurable crop of creepy kids. Today, *The Bad Seed* remains a masterpiece of suspense that's as chilling, intelligent, and timely as ever before.

Demography Vintage

A New York Times top 100 Notable Book of the Year

Alexander Bruno is a man with expensive problems. Sporting a tuxedo and trotting the globe, he has spent his adult life as a

professional gambler. His particular line of work: backgammon, at which he extracts large sums of money from men who think they can challenge his peerless acumen. In Singapore, his luck turned. Maybe it had something to do with the Blot – a black spot which has emerged to distort Bruno’s vision. It’s not showing any signs of going away. As Bruno extends his losing streak in Berlin, it becomes clinically clear that the Blot is the symptom of something terrible. There’s a surgeon who can help, but surgery is going to involve a lot of money, and worse: returning home to the garish, hash-smoke streets of Berkeley, California. Here, the unseemly Keith Stolarzky – a childhood friend in possession of an empire of themed burger bars and thrift stores – is king. And he’s

willing to help Bruno out. But there was always going to be a price.

Postcolonial Ecocriticism
Picador

International Bestseller

“ Emotional . . . sinks its hooks into you from the very first sentence. ”

—Marie Claire “ Perfect for fans of Room, this heartbreaking but important novel . . .

reminds readers that hope can be found in even the darkest moments. ” —Real Simple

First grader Zach Taylor is in his classroom when a gunman enters the school auditorium and the unthinkable happens, irrevocably changing the very fabric of this close-knit community. While Zach's mother pursues a quest for justice, and Zach’s father retreats into his work, Zach finds solace in the healing

world of books and art. Armed with his new insights, and the optimism and stubbornness only a child could have, Zach becomes determined to help the adults in his life rediscover the universal truths of love and compassion they need to pull them through their darkest hour. A dazzling, tenderhearted debut about healing, family, and the exquisite wisdom of children, narrated by a six-year-old boy who reminds us that sometimes the littlest bodies hold the biggest hearts, and the quietest voices speak the loudest. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Acclaimed author Lionel Shriver—author of the National Book Award finalist *So Much for That*, *The Post-Birthday World*, and the vivid psychological novel *We Need*

to Talk About Kevin, now a major motion picture—probes the mystery of charisma in a razor-sharp new novel that teases out the intimate relationship between terrorism and cults of personality, explores what makes certain people so magnetic, and reveals the deep frustrations of feeling overshadowed by a life-of-the-party who may not even be present. “Shriver is a master of the misanthrope. . . . [A] viciously smart writer.” —*Time* [Checker and the Derailleurs](#)
Game Control
Eva never really wanted to be a mother; certainly not the mother of the unlovable boy who murdered seven of his fellow high school students, a cafeteria worker and a teacher who tried to befriend him. Now, two years later, it is time for her to come to terms with marriage, career, family, parenthood and Kevin's horrific rampage in a series of startlingly direct correspondences with her absent husband, Franklyn. Uneasy with

the sacrifices and social demotion of motherhood from the start, Eva fears that her alarming dislike for her own son may be responsible for driving him so nihilistically off the rails.

Textual Mothers/Maternal Texts

Penguin Group USA
SIXTEEN LITERARY
LUMINARIES ON THE
CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECT
OF BEING CHILDLESS BY
CHOICE, COLLECTED IN
ONE FASCINATING

ANTHOLOGY One of the main topics of cultural conversation during the last decade was the supposed "fertility crisis," and whether modern women could figure out a way to have it all-a successful, demanding career and the required 2.3 children-before their biological clock stopped ticking. Now, however, conversation has turned to whether it's necessary to have it all (see Anne-Marie Slaughter) or, perhaps more controversial, whether children are really a requirement for a fulfilling life. The idea that some women and men prefer not to have children is often met with sharp criticism

and incredulity by the public and mainstream media. In this provocative and controversial collection of essays, curated by writer Meghan Daum, sixteen acclaimed writers explain why they have chosen to eschew parenthood. Contributors include Lionel Shriver, Sigrid Nunez, Kate Christiensen, Elliott Holt, Geoff Dyer, and Tim Kreider, among others, who will give a unique perspective on the overwhelming cultural pressure of parenthood. *Selfish, Shallow, and Self-Absorbed* makes a thoughtful and passionate case for why parenthood is not the only path in life, taking our parent-centric, kid-fixated, baby-bump-patrolling culture to task in the process. What emerges is a more nuanced, diverse view of what it means to live a full, satisfying life.

Fates and Furies Farrar
Straus & Giroux
'Provocative and
compelling, it is a
spectacular debut' - Daily
Mail _____ Is

murder ever morally right? write his feelings down to
And is a murderer help him forgive and move
necessarily bad? These two on, but as a retired
questions waltz through the headteacher, Michael
maddening mind of Michael, believes that for every crime
the brilliant, terrifying, there should be a fitting
fiendishly smart creation at punishment - and so in the
the centre of this winking pages of his diary he begins
dark gem of a literary to set out the case for, and
thriller. Michael lost his wife set about committing,
in a terrorist attack on a murder. Waltzing through
London train. Since then, he the darkling journal of a
has been seeing a therapist to brilliant mind put to serious
help him come to terms with misuse, Kill [redacted] is a
his grief - and his anger. He powerful and provocative
can't get over the fact that exploration of the contours
the man he holds responsible of grief and the limits of
has seemingly got away scot- moral justice, and a blazing
free. He doesn't blame the condemnation of all those
bombers, who he considers who hold, and abuse, power.
only as the logical ONE OF THE BEST
conclusion to a long chain of DEBUT NOVELS of 2019
events. No, to Michael's (the i)
mind, the ultimate cause is **The Night Following** Atlantic
the politician whose cynical Books
policies have had such FICTION-GENERAL
deadly impact abroad. His How to Survive Everything
therapist suggests that he Catapult

'Muriel Spark's most celebrated novel . . . This ruthlessly and destructively romantic school ma'am is one of the giants of post-war fiction' Independent 'A brilliantly psychological fugue' Observer The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie is Muriel Spark's most significant and celebrated novel, and remains as dazzling as when it was first published in 1961. Miss Jean Brodie is a teacher unlike any other, proud and cultured, enigmatic and freethinking; a romantic, with progressive, sometimes shocking ideas and aspirations for the girls in her charge. At the Marcia Blaine Academy she takes a select group of girls under her wing. Spellbound by Miss Brodie's unconventional teaching, these devoted pupils form

the Brodie set. But as the girls enter their teenage years and they become increasingly drawn in by Miss Brodie's personal life, her ambitions for them take a startling and dark turn with devastating consequences.

The Prime of Miss Jean

Brodie HarperCollins UK

Following the success of 'We Need to Talk About Kevin' and 'The Post-Birthday World', 'A Perfectly Good Family' is coming back into print after being unavailable for years.

Inherent Vice Canongate Books

When her father dies, Kay Wilkinson can't cry. Over ten years, Alzheimer's had steadily eroded this erudite man into a paranoid lunatic. Surely one's own father passing should never come as such a relief. Both medical professionals, Kay and her husband Cyril have seen too

many elderly patients in similar states of decay. Although healthy and vital in their early fifties, the couple fears what may lie ahead. Determined to die with dignity, Cyril makes a modest proposal. To spare themselves and their loved ones such a humiliating and protracted decline, they should agree to commit suicide together once they've both turned eighty. When their deal is sealed, the spouses are blithely looking forward to another three decades together. But then they turn eighty. By turns hilarious and touching, playful and grave, *Should We Stay or Should We Go* portrays twelve parallel universes, each exploring a possible future for Kay and Cyril. Were they to cut life artificially short, what would they miss out on? Something terrific? Or something terrible? Might they end up in a home? A fabulous luxury retirement village, or a Cuckoo's Nest sort of home?

Might being demented end up being rather fun? What future for humanity awaits--the end of civilization, or a Valhalla of peace and prosperity? What if cryogenics were really to work? What if scientists finally cure aging? Both timely and timeless, Lionel Shriver addresses serious themes--the compromises of longevity, the challenge of living a long life and still going out in style--with an uncannily light touch. Weaving in a host of contemporary issues, from Brexit and mass migration to the coronavirus, Shriver has pulled off a rollicking page-turner in which we never have to mourn perished characters, because they'll be alive and kicking in the very next chapter.

Kill [redacted] Harper Collins Set against the vivid backdrop of modern-day Africa—a continent now primarily populated with wildlife of the two-legged sort—Lionel

Shriver's *Game Control* is a wry, grimly comic tale of bad ideas and good intentions. Eleanor Merritt, a do-gooding American family-planning worker, was drawn to Kenya to improve the lot of the poor. Unnervingly, she finds herself falling in love with the beguiling Calvin Piper despite, or perhaps because of, his misanthropic theories about population control and the future of the human race. Surely, Calvin whispers seductively in Eleanor's ear, if the poor are a responsibility they are also an imposition. With a deft, droll touch, Shriver highlights the hypocrisy of lofty intellectuals who would "save" humanity but who don't like people. *Game Control* Farrar, Straus and Giroux
Longlisted for the McIlvanney Prize 2021
Shortlisted for the Bookmark Festival Book of

the Year 2021 "I wasn't sure there could be a great pandemic novel. Here it is." Ian Rankin My dad taught us to be prepared for whatever was coming. He said we should know the facts about how long we could survive without food, water or fresh air, and to remember that we couldn't live at all without hope. It was better, he said, to be ahead of the game. Better to be ten years too early than one minute too late. That's why he did what he did, on that morning ... Inspired by her father's advance planning and her own ingenuity and courage, this is one teenage girl's survival guide for navigating life under a new, even more deadly pandemic from the confines of a prepper compound. Will she ride out the collapse of everything she knows, and how can she

save her family – and sanity? clarity, Richard Yates shows how Frank and April mortgage their spiritual birthright, betraying not only each other, but their best selves. In his introduction to this edition, novelist Richard Ford pays homage to the lasting influence and enduring power of *Revolutionary Road*.

Double Fault Routledge
NATIONAL BOOK AWARD
FINALIST • Frank and April Wheeler are a bright, beautiful, talented couple in the 1950s whose perfect suburban life is about to crumble in this "moving and absorbing story" (The Atlantic Monthly) from one of the most acclaimed writers of the twentieth century. "The Great Gatsby of my time ... one of the best books by a member of my generation." —Kurt Vonnegut, acclaimed author of *Slaughterhouse-Five* Perhaps Frank and April Wheeler married too young and started a family too early. Maybe Frank's job is dull. And April never saw herself as a housewife. Yet they have always lived on the assumption that greatness is only just around the corner. But now that certainty is about to unravel. With heartbreaking compassion and remorseless

We Need To Talk About Kevin Vintage
"Every story has two sides. Every relationship has two perspectives. And sometimes, it turns out, the key to a great marriage is not its truths but its secrets ... At age twenty-two, Lotto and Mathilde are tall, glamorous, madly in love, and destined for greatness. A decade later, their marriage is still the envy of their friends, but ... things are even more complicated and remarkable than they have seemed"--
A Perfectly Good Family Wilfrid Laurier Univ. Press
"Have we really come so far, when a tour of the Continent is so desirable a thing? We've traded our swords for treaties,

our daggers for promises—but our thirst for violence has never been quenched. And that’s the crux of it—it can’t be quenched. It’s human nature.” For her sixteenth birthday, Vaela Sun receives the most coveted gift in all the Spire—a trip to the Continent. It seems an unlikely destination for a holiday: a cold, desolate land where two nations remain perpetually locked in combat. Most citizens lucky enough to tour the Continent do so to observe the spectacle and violence of battle, a thing long vanished in the peaceful realm of the Spire. For Vaela, the war holds little interest. As a talented apprentice cartographer and a descendant of the Continent herself, she sees the journey as a dream come true: a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to improve upon the maps she’s drawn of this vast, frozen land. But Vaela’s dream all too quickly turns to nightmare as the journey brings her face-to-face with the brutal reality of a war she’s only read about. Observing from the safety of a heli-plane, Vaela is forever changed by the sight of

the bloody battle being waged far beneath her. And when a tragic accident leaves her stranded on the Continent, Vaela finds herself much closer to danger than she’d ever imagined—and with an entirely new perspective as to what war truly means. Starving, alone and lost in the middle of a war zone, Vaela must try to find a way home—but first, she must survive.

Selfish, Shallow, and Self-Absorbed Waveland Press

Part noir, part psychedelic romp, all Thomas

Pynchon—Private eye Doc Sportello surfaces,

occasionally, out of a marijuana haze to watch the

end of an era In this lively yarn, Thomas Pynchon,

working in an unaccustomed genre that is at once exciting

and accessible, provides a classic illustration of the

principle that if you can remember the sixties, you

weren't there. It's been a while since Doc Sportello has seen

his ex- girlfriend. Suddenly

she shows up with a story about a plot to kidnap a billionaire land developer whom she just happens to be in love with. It's the tail end of the psychedelic sixties in L.A., and Doc knows that "love" is another of those words going around at the moment, like "trip" or "groovy," except that this one usually leads to trouble.

Undeniably one of the most influential writers at work today, Pynchon has penned another unforgettable book.

The Continent Delacorte Press

The population processes in which we all participate are compared, contrasted, and synthesized into

understandable trends in the latest edition of this widely acclaimed text. The authors' cogent analysis encompasses demographic milestones like surpassing the seven billion population mark and becoming a majority urban population for the first time in human history, as well as the

repercussions of a global financial crisis and the implications of two important ongoing trends: aging and fertility decline. New data, examples, and discussions of emerging demographic issues are incorporated throughout the value-priced Fourth Edition, along with graphics that highlight trends and facilitate comparisons among world regions. This pedagogically rich volume also includes propositions for debate and end-of-chapter exercises that allow readers to become comfortable with the quantitative tools that demographers use to measure and describe populations.

Moreover, users will learn about some of the people behind the research that informs this text in a new feature called Careers in Demography.

Earth Abides HarperCollins

UK

Textual Mothers/Maternal Texts focuses on mothers as

subjects and as writers who produce auto/biography, fiction, and poetry about maternity. International contributors examine the mother without child, with child, and in her multiple identities as grandmother, mother, and daughter. The collection examines how authors use textual spaces to accept, negotiate, resist, or challenge traditional conceptions of mothering and maternal roles, and how these texts offer alternative practices and visions for mothers. Further, it illuminates how textual representations both reflect and help to define or (re)shape the realities of women and families by examining how mothering and being a mother are political, personal, and creative narratives unfolding within both the pages of a

book and the spaces of a life. The range of chapters maps a shift from the daughter-centric stories that have dominated the maternal tradition to the matrilineal and matrifocal perspectives that have emerged over the last few decades as the mother's voice moved from silence to speech.

Contributors make aesthetic, cultural, and political claims and critiques about mothering and motherhood, illuminating in new and diverse ways how authors and the protagonists of the texts "read" their own maternal identities as well as the maternal scripts of their families, cultures, and nations in their quest for self-knowledge, agency, and artistic expression.